

THE Nexus

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State Librarian Ann Joslin

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BTOP update

As the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) wraps up the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant project, we continue to get the word out about online resources, evaluate the project's impact, and support libraries' efforts to bridge the digital divide.

Two resources for libraries that have recently been added are the do-it-yourself Social Media Kit and the three-minute "Libraries and Economic Development" video:

- The Social Media Kit, at http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/Social-Media-Kit_final.pdf, is a foundation for libraries to author their policies regarding social media. It offers best practices, hints, and information on successfully using Facebook and Pinterest as marketing/media tools.
- The "Libraries and Economic Development" video was developed as part of a collection of resources for library staff and trustees to promote libraries as anchor institutions and can be found at http://youtu.be/NdOCj9P7D_E. A DVD of the video is gradually being distributed to public libraries at various trainings.

As broadband connectivity libraries reflect on the BTOP project, some note that faster computers and Internet have given patrons an opportunity to further their education, helped library users find jobs, and encouraged more people of all ages to use computers for a variety of activities. Many public libraries say training on the E-Rate application process has enabled them to obtain funding that helps ensure the sustainability of their public access computing. And they note that people have become more aware of the services that public libraries offer them.

Idaho's libraries are vital in bridging the digital divide. Moving forward, we will continue to look for ways to leverage the benefits and resources gained from the BTOP project to strengthen libraries' ability to meet this challenge.

See some highlights of Idaho's BTOP project in the American Library Association (ALA) Office for Information Technology Policy's report, "[U.S. Public Libraries and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program](#)."

See more about the BTOP project at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/online>.

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Idaho Commission for Libraries

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Mission:

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

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Ann Joslin

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- Erica Compton, reading programs coordinator
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- Gina Persichini, networking consultant
- Jan Wall, northern Idaho library consultant
- Jeannie Standal, school library consultant
- Kevin Tomlinson, southwest/south central Idaho field consultant
- Kristina Taylor, grants/contracts officer
- Marjorie Hooper, associate state librarian
- Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor
- Roger Dubois, administrative services manager
- Shirley Biladeau, continuing education consultant
- Staci Shaw, reading programs coordinator
- Stephanie Bailey-White, reading programs coordinator
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Service consultant
- Teresa Lipus, public information specialist

The Nexus is available as an e-newsletter and PDF. To subscribe go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/subscribe-to-nexus>.

Library news from around the state

Find out what is happening in Idaho libraries.

Do you have news about your library that you'd like to share in an upcoming Nexus e-newsletter? Please let Teresa Lipus know at teresa.lipus@libraries.idaho.gov.

Ada Community Library was awarded, by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf—a collection of books, films, and other resources that introduce the American public to the complex history and culture of Muslims. See more at www.neh.gov/news/press-release/2013-01-09.

American Library Association Galaxy of Stars: Read about Idaho library staff making a difference in their communities at ala-apa.org/nlwd/?tag=ID. Featured staff include: **LaVern** from Boise; **Robin** from Cascade; **Becky, Kathryn**, and **circulation staff** from Pocatello; and **Kate** and **Megan** from Meridian.

Boise State University, Albertsons Library: Tracy Bicknell-Holmes has been named the new dean of Albertsons Library, effective June 24. Bicknell-Holmes comes to Boise State from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. See more at <http://news.boisestate.edu/update/2013/02/20/new-dean-of-albertsons-library-announced/>.

Groundbreaking and Grand Openings

Nampa Public Library: A Library Square [Groundbreaking Ceremony](#) was held on Tuesday, May 7, with Mayor Tom Dale leading the festivities. The Project is expected to take 18 months to complete. Read more about the new Library Square [here](#).

Lewiston City Library will hold a Grand Opening for their new library on Saturday, June 8, 2013 at 11:00 am. Read more at <http://www.lewistonlibrary.org/>.

Stanley Community Library will hold a Grand Celebration of their new library on Saturday, July 6. View the time-lapse video of building the library at <http://youtu.be/vv5FKluWGlc>.

Libri Foundation Grants (www.librifoundation.org): New, quality, hardcover children's books were awarded to **Garden Valley District Library, Oakley Free District Library, and Weiser Public Library.**

Meridian Library District recently held an open house to welcome new director [Gretchen Caserotti](#), who comes from the Darien Library in Connecticut, where she served as Assistant Director for Public Services. Caserotti was also recently elected to the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) board, a division of ALA. See more at <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/riordan-elected-alsc-2014-2015-president>

Powering Tomorrow Grants from Idaho Power (www.idahopower.com/pdfs/AboutUs/CompanyInformation/PoweringTomorrowGrant_Winners_0313.pdf)

Buhl Public Library recently won a \$1,000 grant to help support the Preschool Story Hour and the Teen Advisory Group.



Gooding Public Library won a grant for their science, technology, engineering and math workshops to give children and adults hands-on learning experiences that demonstrate how fun these subjects can be.

University of Idaho Library:

Ben Hunter—Head of Cataloging and Collections, a Past President of the Idaho Library Association, and 2011 American Library Association Emerging Leader—has been selected by Library Journal as one of the “Movers and Shakers” for 2013. Ben was identified as a Mover & Shaker in the category of Change Agents. Read the full profile at <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2013/03/people/movers-shakers-2013/ben-hunter-movers-shakers-2013-change-agents/>.

Kathleen Monks—Assistant Professor, Reference and Instruction Librarian—has been featured as an emerging leader in the American Libraries Magazine. See more at <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/04102013/emerging-leaders-class-2013>.



Nampa Library Square
[groundbreaking](#)

Idaho Library Snapshot Day results

A special thank you to all of the 30 libraries that participated in Idaho Library Snapshot Day 2013 and took the time to submit stats, photos, reference question examples, library-user comments, and/or suggestions for improving future Library Snapshot Days. Thanks for creating a snapshot of a day in the life of Idaho libraries and capturing the impact they have on their communities.

See a 3-minute video of Idaho Library Snapshot Day 2013 at http://youtu.be/vc_LNn_Hw98.

See complete results at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/IdahoSnapshot>.



Broadband adoption/digital literacy toolkits

The U.S. Commerce Department’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released its Broadband Adoption Toolkit recently, a document aimed at sharing best practices developed from broadband adoption and digital literacy projects funded by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The Toolkit gives practical ideas and tools for overcoming barriers to getting more Americans online access. Find the toolkit (23 MB) at http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/files/toolkit_042913.pdf.

The [EveryoneOn campaign toolkit](#) is also now available, with resources describing the importance of digital literacy and promoting it in local communities. The EveryoneOn campaign, which launched on March 21, promotes the importance of digital literacy skills and consists of PSAs and a website connecting consumers with information about Internet access, training opportunities, and Internet discounts and low-cost computers. At <http://everyoneon.org/>, consumers can plug in a zip code to locate free digital literacy training and Internet access in their area. At <http://www.connect2compete.org/>, consumers can plug in their zip code and find out if they qualify for Connect2Compete's low-cost computers and discounted high-speed Internet.



Libraries can verify that their information is correct at the EveryoneOn.org digital literacy site, which serves as a tool to promote the training, Internet access, and public access computers they offer. Basic information about public libraries is already in the database. If you find that something needs to be updated, you can go to the [Training Locator Tool](#), which has instructions for adding and updating information in the training site database. You can search for your library, click on “Edit,” and fill in missing information on the form (whether you have Wi-Fi, the types of training you offer, etc.).



ICfL's Gina Persichini (l) and Pam Bradshaw (r) deliver the Level 2 Letters About Literature Award to Kenadi

Letters About Literature Competition winners

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) proudly sponsored the 2013 "Letters About Literature" (LAL) contest, a national reading and writing promotion for young readers sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

This year, Idaho's Letters About Literature winners are:

Level I, Grades 4-6, **Victor Smith** of **Meridian** wrote to author Madeleine L'Engle about her book, *A Wrinkle in Time*. Victor is in the 6th grade at Lewis and Clark Middle School in Meridian.

Level II, Grades 7-8, **Kenadi Swendsen** of **Middleton** wrote to author Kathryn Erskine about her book, *Mockingbird*. Kenadi is in the 8th grade at Vision Charter School in Caldwell.

Level III, Grades 9-10, **Hannah Mahoney** of **Moscow** wrote to all authors of literature. Hannah is a sophomore at Moscow Senior High School in Moscow.

Students in grades 4-10 read a book and write a personal letter to an author, explaining how the book changed their views of the world or themselves. Students may select authors, living or deceased, from any genre—fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic. The Commission appointed judges who selected the top essayists on three competition levels. Celebrity judge Dan Popkey, Idaho Statesman columnist, said, "Victor, Kenadi and Hannah richly convey the transformational power of good writing. But they do more than just tell: Inspired by literature, they write inspired sentences themselves."

"These three talented young readers were among 500 Idaho students who took part in this year's contest," said Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor at the Commission. "We are extremely proud of all of the students who took part, because they are developing a lifelong love of literature, reading and learning."

Letters About Literature awards prizes on both the state and national levels. Each of the three state winners receives a \$100 Visa gift card, a framed personalized certificate signed by Ann Joslin, State Librarian, and a new hardbound book. All three winning letters advanced to the National Competition. [National winners](#) will be announced in mid-May. The Letters About Literature contest has been funded for 2014 and the Idaho Commission for Libraries will again sponsor it.

- Read the winning entries on Popkey's blog at <http://blogs.idahostatesman.com/my-moment-as-celebrity-judge-young-readers-write-to-their-favorite-authors/>.
- See photos of the Moscow High School winners at http://dnews.com/local/article_96fef7c2-8074-5353-9f08-64f4660593a6.html?mode=image
- Author Kathryn Erskine has posted Swendsen's letter on her blog at http://www.kathyerskine.com/Kathryn_Erskine/Home.html.



Seeking ICfL Board of Commissioners applicants from northern Idaho

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants for a term on the Board running through June 30, 2018. **A resident of Northern Idaho is being sought.**

Deadline for application is Friday, May 17, 2013.



Idaho
Commission
for Libraries

The Board of Library Commissioners is the policymaking body for the Idaho Commission for Libraries. Service on the Board requires that a member be available for meetings approximately ten days each year. Members receive an honorarium, travel, lodging, and per diem expenses when conducting Commission business. Qualifications include:

- Residency in Idaho (**this Board position is to be a resident of northern Idaho, Region 1 or 2**)
- Being 18 years of age or older
- Having an interest in libraries
- Familiarity with the Idaho library community and experience serving on a governing board or holding a public office are desirable.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest accompanied by a brief resume **by May 17, 2013** to:

Ann Joslin, State Librarian
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702

Or email to ann.joslin@libraries.idaho.gov.

See more at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/applicants-sought-icfl-commissioner>.

District libraries election resources-2013

Election dates are the third Tuesday in May (May 21, 2013) and the Tuesday after the first Monday in November (November 5, 2013) each year. On the Trustee page at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/trustees> find the following election resources:

- Election FAQs: http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/2013_Election_FAQs.pdf
- Election Calendar: http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/2013_Election_Calendar_0.pdf



Idaho at 150 sesquicentennial kickoff

Idaho kicked off a year-long commemoration of its Territorial Sesquicentennial Monday, March 4, on the Capitol steps in Boise, where legislators, tribal leaders, and other VIPs were gathered for the ceremony. The event included an Invocation from Father Camacho; a proclamation by Governor Otter; a Lincoln address from Steve Holgate, Lincoln Portrayer; music from the Shoshone-Paiute Sweet Sage Drum Group, Horizon Elementary School Explorers, and Senator Cherie Buckner-Webb; congratulatory letters from President Obama and Boise Mayor Bieter; and a benediction from Josiah Pinkham of the Nez Perce Tribe.

As Master of Ceremonies David Leroy noted, the kick-off event was just the beginning of a series of statewide events to mark the territorial sesquicentennial. For more information on Idaho's Territorial Sesquicentennial, visit www.Idaho150.com.



Governor, legislators, and other VIPs at Sesquicentennial Kickoff



LiLI.org site redesign

By Gina Persichini, networking consultant

Over the past couple of years, the resources available through www.LiLI.org have grown. We have seen the addition of tools like LearningExpress Library, Scout, DayByDayID.org, guides for digital literacy, and more. All the activity has resulted in an increased number of visitors to the LiLI Portal.

Feedback from users both inside and outside of the library community indicates a need to improve the interface at LiLI.org. While all those tools are great for meeting the needs of Idahoans, we are challenged to keep it easy to navigate—especially for new users.

This year the Idaho Commission for Libraries will introduce significant improvements to LiLI.org. New features will include resources linked to targeted groups of users, quick access to the most popular tools, and a return of subject guides to help steer users to resources pertinent to the topic of their research. Plus, new users will have the option of letting LiLI, our helpful avatar and spokesperson, guide them to resources using an online wizard right on the site.

You can expect to see a preview of the site in the next couple of months, most changes introduced in July, with a target of full implementation before the 2013-14 school year begins. Questions about the upcoming changes should be directed to lili@libraries.idaho.gov.

For updates, be sure to “like” the LiLI Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/LiLIorg> or follow us on Twitter at @LiLIorg.

Changes to interlibrary loan system

Libraries using OCLC's interlibrary loan tools will see significant changes to the interlibrary loan (ILL) system in 2013. OCLC is currently migrating from WorldCat Resource Sharing (on the FirstSearch platform) to World Share ILL (on the worldcat.org platform). All Idaho libraries will begin the process of moving to the new platform in August 2013.

For the full notice and next steps, please go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/ginapersichini/ill-system-changes-2013>.





Elementary school library opportunities

By Stephanie Bailey-White, networking consultant

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) has several opportunities for elementary school library staff that we wanted to make sure you knew about.

Staff members from elementary school libraries are encouraged to apply for up to \$5,000 to improve collections for Idaho's youngest students. **Applications are due June 3, 2013.** The grant package is available in PDF or Word format on ICfL's website (<http://libraries.idaho.gov/>) under the "School Libraries" tab or <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/stephanie-bailey-white/elementary-school-library-mini-grant-application-open-now>.



We also encourage school librarians to subscribe to *The Scoop*, a free, monthly e-newsletter for youth services librarians in Idaho. *The Scoop* has information about grant and professional development opportunities, book reviews, best practices from around the state and nation, and more each month. Subscribe at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/scoop>.

If you have any questions about these opportunities, please don't hesitate to contact me at Stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov, 208-334-2150, or 800-458-3271.

New school library consultant

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is thrilled to welcome Jeannie Standal as our new school library consultant. After earning a Master of Library Science from East Carolina University, Standal became the media coordinator for a middle school of 800 students in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. She and her husband are Idaho natives and in the summer of 2012, after living out-of-state for 17 years, they were delighted to have the opportunity to move with their two sons back home to Idaho. Standal did some volunteer work at the Commission before being hired in her new position.

Standal has always loved the library but got interested in school libraries and youth services when her children started school and she began volunteering in their school's media center. She has been in the library field for four years and feels that her biggest success as a media coordinator was changing the perception of how media centers can be used in schools. If students and teachers don't come to the media center for help, they won't see the wonderful resources there. She managed to get people to come in to collaborate and use the library. Her biggest challenge was keeping her collection current with no funding.

Standal is currently trying to meet as many school librarians as she can to get input about issues affecting Idaho's public school libraries. She is "learning the ropes" of her new position and looking forward to serving Idaho's school library community. So if you see an ICfL table at an Idaho Library Association conference, stop by and introduce yourself.



Jeannie Standal, ICfL school library consultant



Let's Talk About It Application Deadline June 7

Idaho libraries are invited to apply for the 2013-2014 Let's Talk About It (LTAI) series by completing the application now available on the ICfL website (<http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/LTAI%20application%202013-2014.pdf>). Applying is easy, and libraries work with a community partner to promote and host book discussion sessions.

What makes these discussions unique is the presence of a humanities scholar to guide the sessions. Adult readers have access to the library-selected theme and books and then have the opportunity to explore American values, history, culture, and other topics pertinent to the reading selection. Participating libraries report lively, stimulating, and engaging discussions as well as attracting new patrons in the process.

At least 15 libraries statewide will be selected to participate and will be provided book copies and theme and book materials for use in the program. Each library will also provide a \$100 match that may be paid by the library, its community partner, or friends of the library.

Deadline for applications is June 7, and applications can be mailed to Idaho Commission for Libraries, Dian Scott, 325 W. State Street, Boise, ID 83702; faxed to 208-334-4016; or delivered to the Commission office.

The Let's Talk About It program is made possible by the Idaho Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a generous gift from U.S. Bank, and is administered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

See more about the LTAI program at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/lets-talk-about-it>.

Continuing Education opportunities

ABLE (available now): The newly updated, online Alternative Basic Library Education (ABLE) Program, provides basic library knowledge and skills for staff members who have no formal education in library science. Anyone interested in improving their knowledge of library basics is welcome to take these courses, which are getting positive reviews from users and have even been used internationally.



Turning the Page 2.0—Libraries Building Communities (registration opens June 1, 2013):

The Public Library Association's successful Turning the Page program is coming to Idaho. This fall, starting in September, members of the Idaho library community will join members of the Washington library community to participate in the six-week online series, which takes participants through the steps of developing a plan for promoting libraries as anchor institutions. In addition, we will share how Idaho libraries can get involved with the OCLC Geek the Library program, which provides assistance in various areas for libraries to implement their action plan.

Find out more about ABLE and Turning the Page at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/ContinuingEducation>.



Nominations sought for newly opened position on LSTA Advisory Council



All letters must be received at the Idaho Commission for Libraries by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2013.

The Idaho Board of Library Commissioners is seeking nominations for the **Southwestern Idaho Public Library seat** on the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Council. This is a recently vacated position. Candidates eligible for this position must be a staff member or trustee from a publically funded, public library in the southwestern region of the state. This appointment is for two years to complete the remainder of the position's current term. **The appointment becomes effective July 1, 2013 and runs through June of 2015.**

About the LSTA Advisory Council

The LSTA Advisory Council is appointed by the Board of Library Commissioners in accordance with the Library Services and Technology Act, P.L. 104-208. The Council broadly represents the library community and library users, and serves to advise the Board on the development of the state plan for the Library Services and Technology Act, the annual LSTA program, and evaluation of LSTA grant applications and projects. The Board of Library Commissioners may also seek Council advice on other matters related to library services.

Council members, both individually and as a group, are expected to advocate for the improvement of library services in Idaho. Individual members may also be asked to represent the Council's interest on other Commission-appointed advisory groups. More information about the Council is available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/advisory-council> or by contacting Marj Hooper at marj.hooper@libraries.idaho.gov, 208-334-2150 for local area Boise calls, or toll free 1-800-458-3271.

The LSTA Advisory Council typically meets once a year in Boise for two days; additional input is solicited as needed via conference call or e-mail. Members are reimbursed for travel expenses.

How to Apply:

Individuals interested in applying should send a letter to Ann Joslin, State Librarian, ann.joslin@libraries.idaho.gov, describing his or her interest in and experience with libraries. When sending an email notice of interest, please also include a mailing address and phone number where you may be reached. Letters may also be sent to:

Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State St.
Boise, ID, 83702.

Council members are appointed for terms of five state fiscal years (July-June). Appointments are scheduled to be made at the June 7, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting. All letters must be received at the Idaho Commission for Libraries by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2013.



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